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It covers (1) U.S. Federal government documents, especially those from executive branch departments and those from the Congressional branch - - Committees, the U.S. General Accounting Office, and the Congressional Budget Office; (2) policy briefs from major private think tanks, especially those in Washington; and (3) major reports from national professional associations. A few new high quality, high relevance think tank-sponsored books are also listed.

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Reports

[Item#1](#)

THE ATTRITION TRADITION IN AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION: CONNECTING PAST AND PRESENT.
American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy. John R. Thelin. April 20, 2010.

In July 2009, President Barack Obama set out a bold higher education agenda for his administration and promised that the U.S. would once again lead the world in college degree attainment. Given the nation's

current level of college completion, it is reasonable to wonder whether such ambitions are feasible. While there is a sense that the country needs to recreate the "Golden Age" of American higher education, where high completion rates were the norm, few have bothered to ask whether this era was actually as golden as the conventional wisdom would suggest, says the author.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/AttritionTraditionThelin.pdf>

[PDF format, 28 pages].

Item#2

CLIMATE CRISIS, CREDIT CRISIS: THE QUEST FOR GREEN GROWTH. Brookings Institution. Kemal Dervis et al. Web posted April 22, 2010.

As the global economy struggles to sustain its recovery from the deepest recession in sixty years, another challenge looms large: preventing the Earth from warming more than 3.6 °F, widely considered by climate experts as the acceptable level to reduce the risk of irreversible global damage resulting from climate change. To meet these challenges, authors contend that we must look beyond our national borders, recognize that we face an uncertain future, and collaborate to ensure our collective well-being.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2010/0422_climate_change_poverty/0422_climate_change_poverty.pdf

[PDF format, 40 pages].

Item#3

HELPING HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS IMPROVE THEIR PROSPECTS. Princeton University and Brookings Institution. Dan Bloom and Ron Haskins. April 27, 2010.

Dropping out of high school has serious long-term consequences not only for individuals but also for society. According to expert estimates, between 3.5 million and 6 million young Americans between the ages of 16 and 24 are school dropouts. Lowering the number of adolescents who fail to finish high school and helping those who drop out get back on track must be a major policy goal for our nation. The policy brief focuses primarily on how best to provide youngsters who have dropped out of school a second chance.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/0427_helping_dropouts_haskins/0427_helping_dropouts_haskins.pdf

[PDF format, 8 pages].

Item#4

A HUMAN HEALTH PERSPECTIVE ON CLIMATE CHANGE. National Institute of Health. April 21, 2010.

The report highlights 11 key categories of diseases and other health consequences that are occurring or will occur due to climate change. It provides a starting point for coordination of federal research to better understand climate's impact on human health. The recommendations of the working group include research to identify who will be most vulnerable, and what efforts will be most beneficial.

Full Text:

<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/docs/climatereport2010.pdf>

[PDF format, 80 pages].

Item#5

LOCAL AREA PERSONAL INCOME, 2008. U.S. Department of Commerce. David G. Lenze and Kathy Albetski. April 22, 2010.

The report provides estimates of personal income at the county level for 2008 based on newly available source data. The percent change from 2007 to 2008 in county personal income ranged from -48 percent in Slope County, North Dakota to 54 percent in Faulk County, South Dakota with growth slowing in more than two-thirds of the counties. For the nation, personal income grew 2.9 percent in 2008 after growing 5.5 percent in 2007. A surge in farm income accounted for the bulk of the growth in 29 of the 31 fastest growing counties, as they continued to rebound from sharp mid-decade declines in farm income.

Full Text:

<http://www.bea.gov/newsreleases/regional/lapi/2010/pdf/lapi0410.pdf>

[PDF format, 8 pages].

Item#6

NURTURING THE ACCUMULATION OF INNOVATIONS: LESSONS FROM THE INTERNET. National Bureau of Economic Research. Shane Greenstein. April 2010.

The innovations that became the foundation for the Internet originate from two eras that illustrate two distinct models for accumulating innovations over the long haul. The pre-commercial era illustrates the operation of several useful non-market institutional arrangements. The commercial era highlights the extraordinary power of market-oriented and widely distributed investment and adoption, which illustrates the power of market experimentation to foster innovative activity.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.nber.org/papers/w15905.pdf?new_window=1

[PDF format, 26 pages].

Item#7

SOUTH AMERICA FOR THE CHINESE?: A TRADE-BASED ANALYSIS. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Eliana Cardoso and Marcio Holland. April 21, 2010.

Is South America cursed by its natural resources? Does China's penetration of the region renew the region's comparative advantage in natural resources? Does South America's trade specialization stand in the way of regional integration? The paper tries to answer these questions.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/41/39/45041460.pdf>

[PDF format, 57 pages].

Item#8

THOUGHTS ON AN “INITIATIVE STRATEGY” FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT OF NORTH KOREA. Brookings Institution. Sanghee Lee. April 23, 2010.

The denuclearization of North Korea is of great interest to the international community and is a key premise of international policies toward North Korea and the discussion of reunification of the Republic of Korea. Unfortunately, efforts by the international community to resolve North Korea’s nuclear issue have not produced visible results and the nuclear issue is only one component of the larger problem of North Korea, according to the author.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2010/04_north_korea_lee.aspx

[HTML format, various paging].

Item#9

TOO FAT TO FIGHT: RETIRED MILITARY LEADERS WANT JUNK FOOD OUT OF AMERICA’S SCHOOLS. Mission: Readiness Military Leaders for Kids. April 2010.

More than 9 million young adults – 27 percent of all Americans age 17 to 24 – are too overweight to join the military, according to the report. Declaring that escalating rates of child obesity pose a serious threat to national security, retired military leaders joined Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN) and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack in support of new child nutrition legislation to help reduce the obesity epidemic and expand the pool of healthy young adults available for military service.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://cdn.missionreadiness.org/MR_Too_Fat_to_Fight-1.pdf

[PDF format, 16 pages].

Item#10

WHY TRADE FIGURES DO NOT PROVE CHINA IS REBALANCING. New America Foundation. Samuel Serraden. April 27, 2010.

China’s trade surplus declined in the first quarter, and during March the country ran a deficit of \$7.2 billion, its first monthly trade deficit since 2004. Contrary to some analyses, this is not proof that the economy has made significant progress toward rebalancing or a reason for the United States to back away from pushing China on yuan appreciation.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.newamerica.net/publications/policy/why_trade_figures_do_not_prove_china_is_rebalancing
[HTML format, various paging].